THE
Dan Smoot Report

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DAN SMOOT

RACE WARS, U.S.A. - PART IX

U.S. Representative John Conyers (Negro Democrat from Detroit) says Negroes are angry enough to burn America down.

What are they angry about?

They are trying to tear Milwaukee apart because, they claim, they want a fair housing law; but New Jersey, where Negroes sacked and pillaged several cities in 1967, has what the liberal governor of that state boasts to be the "best" fair housing law in the nation.

For years, Negro agitators (Martin Luther King of SCLC, Whitney Young, Jr., of the Urban League, Roy Wilkins of NAACP, SNCC leaders, CORE leaders, Louis Lomax, et al.), and white liberals claimed that Negroes wanted only to be treated as human beings without regard to their race: eliminate racial discrimination in employment, use of public accommodations and recreational facilities, school attendance, voting, housing — and Negroes would compete happily with whites for their place in a multi-racial society where no one notices color.

Four unconstitutional federal civil rights statutes, a multitude of executive orders and administrative ukases, and innumerable state and local laws and regulations went into effect to give Negroes what they wanted. Then, Negro leaders decided they did not want to be ignored as a racial group. Now, civil righters demand, for Negroes, favoritism, privileges, special aid from the public treasury — *because they are Negroes*. The most outspoken black militants want total separation of the races — with Negroes set up in a state (or states) of their own and provided with everything they desire at the white man's expense.

To satisfy civil righters' demands, President Eisenhower ordered that no mention of race be made in employment records or personnel files of federal employees. Private businesses with government contracts, and institutions and local and state agencies receiving tax money from the federal bureaucracy

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were told to refrain from "classifying" people on the basis of race. Throughout the land, there was a rush to comply, by those who did not want to lose "their share" of tax money shoveled out from Washington. State governments, city governments, school systems, hospitals, colleges changed application and personnel forms so that no mention of race could be found in the files. Some state legislatures enacted "fair employment practice" laws to keep private employers from indicating race in employment records. California even prohibited private employers from requiring photographs of job applicants, to make sure that race would not be a consideration in hiring.

All of this later created complications for President Kennedy, who, to satisfy civil righters' demands, appointed a task force to determine whether Negroes had a "fair share" of good jobs. How could Washington bureaucrats tell whether Negroes were being discriminated against in employment, without knowing how many Negroes were on payrolls?

The liberal dilemma about counting Negroes without counting them produced its most awkward results in the public schools. Ten years ago, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare deemed it a sin for school systems to classify students by race. Now, to enforce the Civil Rights Act of 1964, HEW *requires* all school systems to classify students by race.[1]

Just before the Watts riot in 1965, President Johnson said that isolation of Negroes from white communities was a cause of Negro problems. In the liberal dialogues that proliferated after the riot, it was proclaimed that Negroes burned, pillaged, and murdered because they were ignored. Negroes in Watts, it was alleged, saw whites only as they went rushing by on freeways, unaware that Watts and its Negro problems were there. We were even treated to a tv interview with a Negro rioter who screamed that they burned Watts so that "whitey would know we was here." But a later study by University of California sociologists disclosed that rioting Negroes in Watts had had some degree of personal association with whites; that the association was more extensive for Negroes with good incomes than for others; and that resentment of whites was as intense (or more intense) among Negroes who had had the most equalitarian association with whites.[2]

Liberals claim that the economic gap between the white middle class and the Negro poor is a major cause of Negro unrest and violence; but poor whites are not rioting because of the economic gap between them and the Negro well-to-do. There is a large and growing Negro middle class, as affluent as the white middle class; and it is middle-class Negroes, mostly college trained (Rap Brown, Martin Luther King, Whitney Young, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Stokely Carmichael, Louis Lomax, et al.), who have fanned the fires of race hatred.

Liberals claim that unemployment is a cause of Negro unrest and violence. Yet, all over the nation, jobs which Negroes could fill go begging. Even jobs created by Johnson's antipoverty programs and funded by Congress with tax money are not filled.

In November, 1966, the National Capital Housing Authority (which operates public housing projects in the District of Columbia) entered the war on poverty by offering part-time jobs to Negro teenage residents of housing projects — jobs which paid $1.40 an hour, for as many as 16 hours a week, the work being maintenance in the housing projects (picking up trash, replacing light bulbs, and so on). The purpose was to keep teenagers in school, it being assumed that dropouts result from economic deprivation.[3]

The jobs were well advertised in the projects; but by the end of May, 1967, only 98 of the 154 available positions had been filled.[3]

The superintendent of the National Capital Housing Authority said he could give summer jobs in the housing projects to 300 youngsters, through the Neighborhood Youth Corps, and could hire 50 adult residents in the projects at $2.25 an hour to supervise the youngsters. These jobs were also well publicized in the projects;

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but, by the end of May, 1967, only 43 teenagers and 4 adults had applied (all 4 of the adults being women).[3]

William Raspberry, a Negro writer who publicized the above facts about the poverty war in Washington, said:

"The embarrassing truth is that some youngsters from poor families simply don't want to work."[3]

For the 1967 fiscal year, Congress appropriated millions of tax dollars for the Neighborhood Youth Corps to create thousands of jobs for economically deprived young people. In the nation's 20 largest cities, as of July 15, 1967, all authorized Neighborhood Youth Corps jobs had been filled only in New York City. In the other 19 largest cities, 107,553 jobs had been authorized, but only 71,505 had been filled. It throws some light on bureaucratic operations to note that in New York City, the Neighborhood Youth Corps had filled 625 more jobs than had been authorized.[4]

BUT, liberals contend, Negroes are tired of having only low-salaried jobs. They want to be executives.

In August, 1964 — during a period of Negro riots in Jersey City — the Reverend Robert W. Castle (a white Episcopal priest prominent as an ultra-liberal leader of Negro demonstrations) suggested to four unemployed Negro youths that they should get jobs. One of the Negroes replied:

"Sometimes you get a job and you work like nine hustlers all week and you go out and spend a little on Saturday night and you got nothing left. It's degrading."

"I know, I know," the priest replied.[5]

Most high-salaried whites (and Negroes) first worked in low-salaried jobs until they learned enough to qualify for high wages; but civil righters and angry Negroes want Negroes given high positions without enduring the "degrading" period of apprenticeship.

The lament about Negroes not having their "fair share" of the best jobs overlooks the fact that Negroes hold many high-level jobs in government, just as they do in private industry. Thomas J. Whelan, mayor of Jersey City, says it is difficult to hire Negro policemen, because any Negro man qualified to be a policeman can get a much better job in private industry than a white man with the same qualifications can get.[6] Many big businesses — threatened with boycotts, violent demonstrations, and loss of government contracts, and under heavy pressure from government officials — are eager to hire Negroes for good jobs. Government agencies promote Negroes to supervisory positions when there are available whites with more seniority and qualifications for the jobs.

One of the two alleged reasons for the 1967 Newark Negro riot was that the mayor had appointed a white instead of a Negro as *secretary* of the board of education. The *president* of the board of education in Newark *is* a Negro. The budget director, health and welfare director, chairman of the planning board, high court judge, and two of the city councilmen are also Negroes.

Some liberals blame Negro unrest on the fact that Negro society is a matriarchy: Negro women have better education and better jobs than Negro men; women dominate Negro family life and make Negro men feel inferior. Hence, according to this liberal theory, committing violence is among the few things that make a Negro male feel like a man. The recommended liberal solution for this problem is for whites to give Negro men better educational opportunities and better jobs so that they will not feel inferior to their women;[7] but this would require discrimination on the basis of sex, a direct violation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which was enacted for the benefit of all Negroes, male and female.

Some liberals claim that Negroes riot because they are hungry, but Negro rioters seldom steal food. They steal whiskey, guns, tv sets.

Some liberals say a major Negro grievance is that police do not give Negroes protection from crime in Negro districts; but most major riots have been precipitated by Negro attacks on police

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(both Negro and white) for trying to enforce the law in Negro districts.

In the end, there is only one conclusion that makes sense: Negroes angry enough to destroy our nation are angry because they are not white.

Rap Brown, when asked by a white reporter what whites could do for Negroes, replied (according to a radio news report):

"If you hunkies want to help us blacks, give us some guns."

On September 15, 1967, NBC televised a 1-hour program on Negro riots. Frank McGee moderated. Daniel Moynihan (formerly, President Kennedy's Undersecretary of Labor) was featured as a sociological expert. The program opened by showing Detroit Negroes and whites living, playing, and working happily together. This was the place where it should not have happened, because Negroes had everything liberals have always said they wanted.

Yet, when it happened, an astonishing number of Negroes — of all economic classes — revealed that they were angry enough to burn the city to ashes. Afterward, Negro militants threatened that another riot would occur and that, next time, Negroes would concentrate on killing whites rather than on burning and looting.

McGee and Moynihan concluded that Negroes are angry because they have no self-respect, but said that Negroes must be *given* self-respect; and they suggested a way to do it: a guaranteed annual income for everyone whether he works or not. If a person is given an adequate income, as a right and not as charity, he will have self-respect!

This NBC program was part of a liberal propaganda campaign in support of a guaranteed annual income. And this scheme is merely one of many multi-billion dollar proposals now being touted as a cure for Negro riots.

Confiscate more money from taxpayers for bribes to angry Negroes who threaten to kill taxpayers and destroy their property; this will give the angry Negroes self-respect; self-respect will cool their anger; then they will stop destroying and killing.

This is the liberal intellect in our time.

NEXT WEEK: Conclusion.

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FOOTNOTES

(1) Article by Karen Klinefelter, *The Dallas Morning News*, Sept. 15, 1967, p. 5A

(2) AP article, July 29, 1967

(3) Article by William Raspberry, *The Washington Post*, May 29, 1967

(4) "Special Report; Urban Problems and Civil Disorder," *Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report*, Sept. 8, 1967, p. 1722

(5) Article by Sydney H. Schanberg, *The New York Times*, Aug. 6, 1964, p. 18

(6) Interview with Jersey City Mayor Thomas J. Whelan, *U.S. News & World Report*, Aug. 14, 1967, p. 42

(7) "Negro Problem: Women Rule The Roost," article by Lloyd Shearer, *Parade*, Aug. 19, 1967, pp. 4-5

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